

# Psalms 30:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit?  
Shall the dust praise thee? shall it declare thy truth?

## Analysis

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The rhetorical question 'What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise thee? shall it declare thy truth?' argues for preservation on the basis of God's glory. Death silences testimony. While not fully understanding afterlife, David argues that living saints glorify God more than dead ones. Reformed theology sees fuller revelation in Christ's resurrection—even death doesn't silence praise (Rev. 14:13), but temporal deliverance multiplies opportunities for testimony.

## Historical Context

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Old Testament saints had limited revelation about afterlife. They focused on this-life service to God. Later revelation (especially Christ's resurrection) expanded understanding, but the principle remains: God is glorified through sustained faithfulness.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How does your continued life provide opportunity to glorify God?
2. What does this verse teach about valuing life as a stewardship for God's glory?

## Interlinear Text

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מָה	בְּצֵעַ	בְּדָמִי	בְּרִדְתִּי	אֶל	שְׁחַת	הַיֹּדֶבֶר
H4100	What profit	is there in my blood	when I go down	H413	to the pit	praise
	H1215	H1818	H3381		H7845	H3034
עָפָר	הִגִּיד	אֱמֶתְךָ:				
Shall the dust	thee shall it declare	thy truth				
H6083	H5046	H571				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 6:5** (Parallel theme): For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?

**Isaiah 38:18** (Resurrection): For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth.

**Ecclesiastes 9:10** (Parallel theme): Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

**Psalms 118:17** (Parallel theme): I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.